GILMORE LIGHTING DESIGN

LIGHT READING

January 2014

Dear Colleagues, Friends, and Clients,

Happy New Year! 2014 is a number that elicits different things for different people. Is age just a number? In the lighting design profession, numbers of all kinds have become increasingly part of the process and too many decisions are being made based on numbers alone. Certain numbers shouldn't be ignored if they serve a good purpose and are managed properly.

Wishing you a year of favorable numbers and happiness!

Debra Gilmore
Gilmore Lighting Design

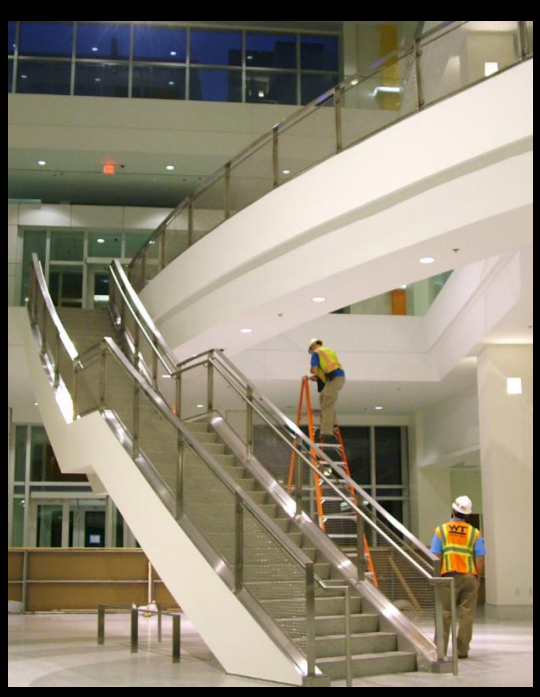
NIHPNRCII

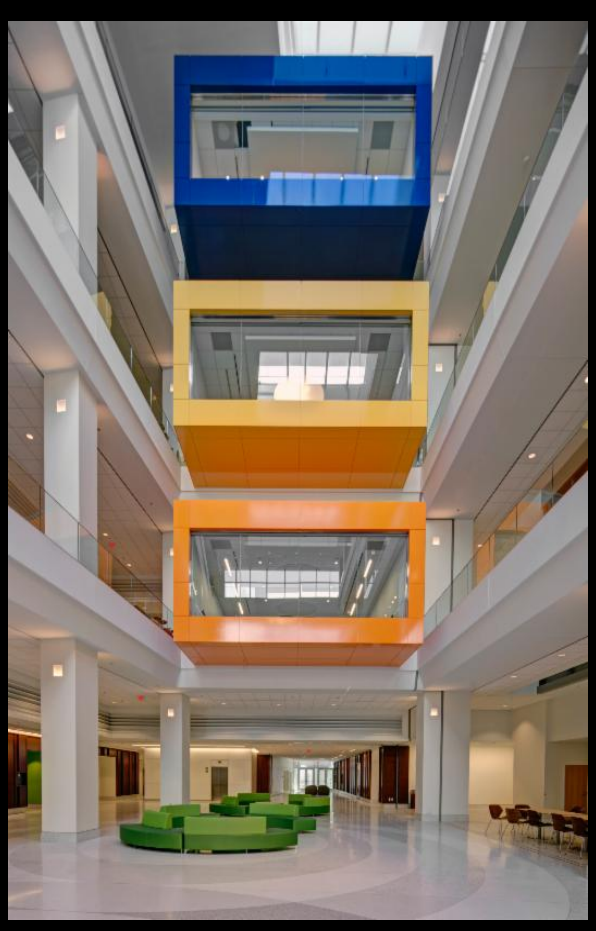
Our design for the recently completed Phase II of the John Edward Porter Neuroscience Research Center at NIH, had the full complement of a number ordered design process. Designed in 2007 and stretching into 2008, the funding for construction lacked congressional approval and the recession postponed the start of construction till 2010.

The narrow, four-story atrium houses a conference center at the ground floor used by numerous campus wide disciplines. As the main entry occurs at the first floor, and the visitor descends to the conference center, the atrium needed to feel welcoming and simultaneously indicative of the office and lab functions beyond.

To avoid creating shadows from the central stair, and to balance contrast from the skylights above, an asymmetric layer of light for the floor was used. Adjustable fixtures were mounted in a location easily accessible for maintenance. Visual interest to the surrounding atrium surfaces was achieved through recessed indirect wall and ceiling fixtures in the perimeter circulations spaces.

Focusing on a project five years after
it was designed, was a good reminder about the importance of keeping



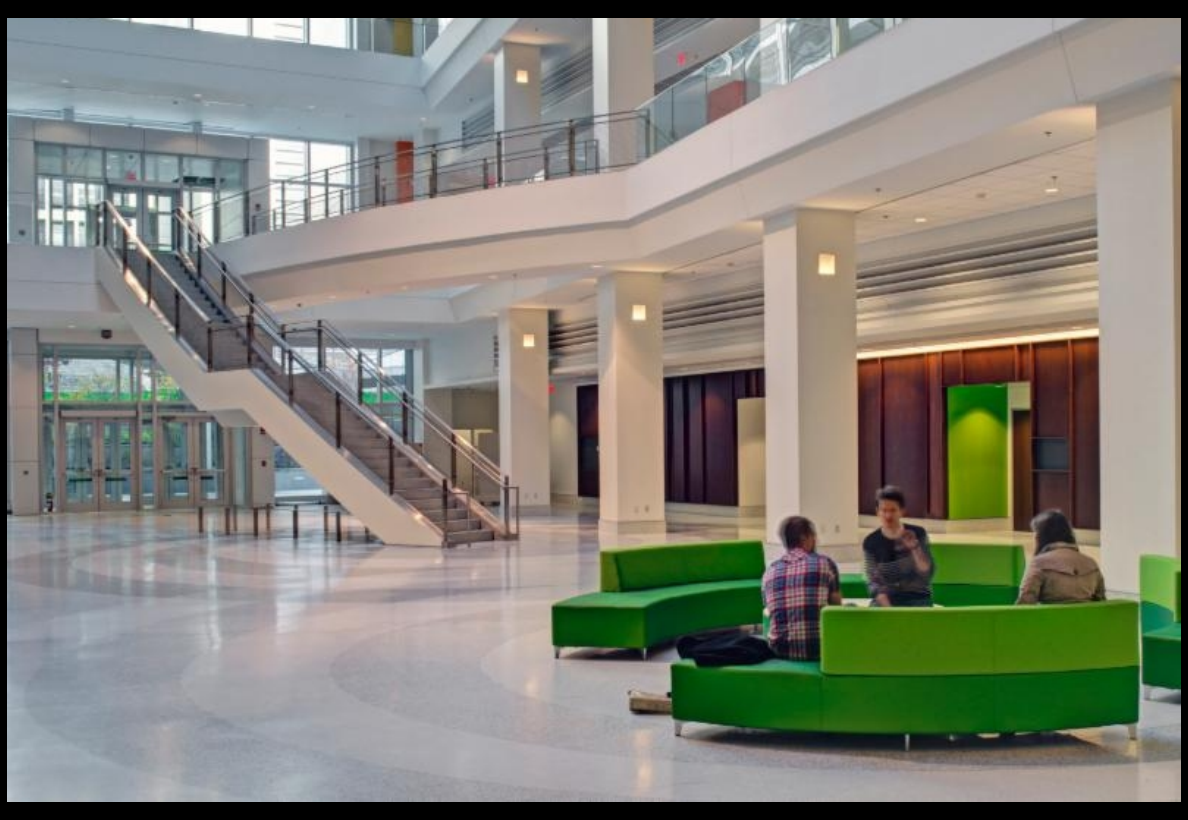


organized project records including numerical data such as calculations, and original design decisions available. The project looks exactly as we envisioned.

When a design's success hinges on beautiful geometry of a well considered reflected ceiling plan, having to add more fixtures to achieve code mandated lighting levels can throw an architect into a frenzy. But following metrics alone, such as construction budgets, LEED goals, lumens per watt, power densities etc., will not produce an attractive project.

A strong concept continually referenced, in addition to the spread sheets, will aid in a positive outcome for all.

Question: Shall we predict what year we will adopt wearable tech
as a way to organize the continuing accumulation of numerical data important to our projects and lives?



Architect: Perkins + Will
Final Photos: Alain Jaramillo

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